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The three eggs collected April 19, 1897, measure, respectively,  $.79 \times .58$ ;  $.80 \times .58$ ;  $.78 \times .58$ . The ground color is very faint bluish-white, — lighter than in *A. sanctorum*, — heavily marked all over with large blotches of raw umber and smaller spots of lilac; these markings much heavier than in *sanctorum*. A few hairlike lines of blackish run over small end of one egg and about its small diameter. Nest larger than that of San Benito Island species, made of salt grass and lined with fine shreds of grass and a few feathers of *Larus*.

The setting parent was flushed from this nest while I was about fifteen feet distant, and became very uneasy in voice and action. A careful search revealed the rest, sixteen inches from the ground, in a tall bunch of glasswort, the top of which was bent over and in to form a covering. The eggs were concealed from a top view, and entrance to the nest was possible from one side only. The taking of incubated eggs at this date, and of laying females in June, shows that two broods are raised in a year.

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## GENERAL NOTES.

**The Pacific Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla pollicaris*) in Lower California.** — On March 17, 1897, I shot a fully adult Pacific Kittiwake, at San Geronimo Island, Lower California, about 200 miles south of the United States boundary line, thus extending the known range of that species to Mexican waters.

For the past three winters I have found the Kittiwakes of regular, though not common occurrence, off San Diego, California, and about the Coronado Islands. — A. W. ANTHONY, *Portland, Oregon.*

**Capture of the Short-tailed Albatross on the Coast of Southern California.** — The Zoölogical Department of Stanford University, California, has been recently presented with a fine specimen in the flesh of *Diomedea albatrus*.

It was taken at San Pedro, Los Angeles Co., Cal., on April 3, 1898, by Mr. Cloudsley Rutler, who shipped it to the Museum of the Department.

This bird being of rather uncommon occurrence on our coast here, I send this notice of its capture. — ROBT. B. McLAIN, *Stanford University, Cal.*

**Wilson's Phalarope** (*Steganopus tricolor*) at Ocean City, N. J.—To the best of my knowledge the published records of Wilson's Phalarope on the New Jersey coast are limited to two specimens recorded by Dr. C. C. Abbott, as taken at Deal Beach, Monmouth Co. (Birds of New Jersey, in Cooke's Geol. of N. J., 1868). I was never able to trace up these specimens, and the many evident errors in the list in which they are mentioned, naturally casts some doubt on the validity of the record. It is with much pleasure, therefore, that I am able to place on record the capture of a fine adult female of this species by Mr. Gilbert H. Moore, at Ocean City, N. J., May 19, 1898. The bird was in company with a flock of the smaller shore birds when shot.

Mr. Moore has presented the specimen to the local collection of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.—WITMER STONE, *Acad. Nat. Science, Philadelphia, Pa.*

**Unusual Nesting Site of Kingbird.**—The following may be of some interest to the readers of 'The Auk.' It is certainly unique in my experience. There is a fence post within 50 feet of the Shady Hill Station, Bedford, Mass., and within 35 feet of the railroad, and immediately beside a road, over which men are travelling back and forth all day long, from the office and packing sheds of the Shady Hill Nursery. This post was made of an abandoned railroad tie, whose end had been somewhat hollowed by decay; and in this hollow, in the summer of 1896, a pair of Kingbirds (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) built their nest and raised four young.

One would imagine, judging from the usual characteristics of the Kingbirds, that this pair might have been in constant trouble; but Messrs. A. H. Kirkland, of the Massachusetts State Board of Agriculture, and E. L. Beard, President of the Shady Hill Nursery, to whom I am indebted for this information, seem to be under the impression that, all things considered, they got on very well. The top of the post was only about four feet above the ground, and being immediately beside the road, was, of course, a matter of some interest to the passers-by; but as orders had been issued by Mr. Beard to his numerous workmen, not to have the nest disturbed, the old ones were able to bring them up.

I have no date except that of June 9, 1896, given me by Mr. Kirkland, at which time, he writes me, the nest "contained four young."

Mr. Beard is responsible for the information that on days of extreme heat, the old birds could often be seen standing over their young, and with vibrating wings, sheltering and cooling them.—FRED H. KENNARD, —*Boston, Mass.*

**Early Arrival of the Kingbird at Cambridge, Mass.**—I saw a Kingbird Saturday, April 16, in my yard. I suppose it is a very unusual date for the arrival of *Tyrannus tyrannus*. It has been seen there eleven other days; from the 23d to the 29th of April it was cold and rainy with north-east winds during which the bird was not seen.